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(54) Title: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING AN ANTI-STREPTOCOCCAL AGENT AND ITS USE FOR TREATING STREPTO-COCCAL INFECTIONS

(57) Abstract: A method for identifying an anti-streptococcal agent, comprises: (a) providing, as a first component, an isolated streptococcal M protein or a functional variant thereof; (b) providing, as a second component, isolated fibrinogen or a functional variant thereof; (b) providing, as a third component, an isolated β_2 integrin or a functional variant thereof; (d) contacting said components with a test substance under conditions that would permit the components to interact in the absence of the test substance; and (e) determining whether the test substance inhibits the interaction between the components; thereby to determine whether a test substance is an anti-streptococcal agent.





A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 CO7K14/315 A61K39/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C07K A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, EMBASE, Sequence Search

Category •	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
	where appropriate, or the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	CUE D. ET AL.: "A nonpeptide integrin antagonist can inhibit epithelial cell ingestion of Streptococcus pyogenes by blocking formation of integrin alpha5betal-fibronectin-M1 protein complexes." PROC. NATL. ACAD. SCI. USA, vol. 97, no. 6, 14 March 2000 (2000-03-14), pages 2858-2863, XP002306201	15—19, 22—26
	the whole document/	1,11-14, 27,28

LA Solidation of box C.	X Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the automatical state.	"T" later document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention. "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to
which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the International filling date but later than the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search	involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report
12 January 2005	25/01/2005
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nt, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Giry, M

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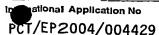


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PCT/EP2004/004429

C.(Continu	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	PC1/EP2004/004429
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (January 2004)

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C/Continu	offen) DOCHMENTO COMMENT	PCT/EP2004/004429
Category °	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	
	or document, with indication, where appropriate, or the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ternational application No.

PCT/EP2004/004429

Вох	No. I	Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)
1.	With	regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed nation, the international search was carried out on the basis of:
	a.	type of material X a sequence listing table(s) related to the sequence listing
	b.	format of material X in written format X in computer readable form
	c.	time of filing/furnishing X contained in the international application as filed X filed together with the international application in computer readable form furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purpose of search
2.		In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
3.	Addit	aonal comments:

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ternational application No. PCT/EP2004/004429

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This international Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
1. X Claims Nos.: 23-25, 28 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 23-25 and 28 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body by therapy, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the Invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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